

* THE GUIDE *

tablet case *



A SEWING PATTERN BY



the guide tablet case

SEWING TUTORIAL

THE GUIDE tablet case

This tablet case was inspired by The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, and features large, friendly letters reading "Don't Panic." But on its own it's a good tablet case for a 7" tablet that holds it in place via corner tabs and elastic

DIFFICULTY: 

Really easy to put together, though working with Peltex can take a little bit of skill.

MAKES:

one case that measures 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" and fits most 7" tablets such as the Nook Color or Kindle.

MATERIALS & TOOLS

- 1/3 yd. of light to medium weight fabric for case (stiff cotton or light twill would be perfect - I used inter-faced faux suede)
- 11 3/8" x 8 3/8" piece of super heavyweight interfacing, must be very stiff, like cardboard (the brand you find may differ, but I used a brand called Peltex)
- 9 3/4" length of 3/8" elastic
- Complementing fabric paint for the outside writing
- 6" x 8" piece of freezer paper for the paint stencil
- Matching sewing thread
- Basic sewing tools (sewing machine, scissors, iron, needles, pins, fabric marker, seam ripper)

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

1. Print out the project pattern, pages 7-10
2. Assemble the printed pattern pieces
3. Lay out the pattern pieces on your fabric/interfacing and cut them out
4. Mark the fabric pieces with the guidelines from the pattern



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1

First we're making the corners that help hold your tablet inside the case. For each of the case corners, fold the fabric square diagonally with wrong sides facing, then iron the triangles flat. Line those triangles against each corner of your Inner Case - Right piece, so all the raw edges are lining up. Then baste all the triangles in place by sewing around the perimeter of the inner case piece.



2

To finish the inner part of your case, line up the raw edges of the Inner Case - Right and Inner Case - Left, matching up the single notches. This is to ensure that you're lining up the long edges of the pieces.

When you go to sew them together, sew at the usual stitch length for the first and last 5/8" of the seam. In between, switch to a basting stitch. When the seam is complete, iron it towards the left side of the inner case, away from the section with the corner tabs. Be sure not to iron it open.

3

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Before we sew the outer case, we're going to attach some elastic to it so you'll have a way to hold your case shut when you finish. Take your length of elastic and baste each end to your outer case where the pattern guidelines indicate. Do this from the right side of your fabric, and when you finish it should just look like you have a strip of elastic going flush down the side of your outer case. It's simple but it works!

3



With all the little details complete, you can now sew the inside of your case to the outside. Layer the pieces together and match up all the raw edges. Then sew around the entire perimeter of the case.

When you finish, clip the corners and trim the seam allowances down to about $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Then using your seam ripper, carefully open up the seam you made in the middle all the way across. Use this opening to turn your case right side out. Poke the corners so they look nice and crisp, then iron the whole thing so all the edges are sharp.

4



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5

From the opening in the center that you made, this also where you'll be inserting your Peltex. Start to push it in with the adhesive side facing the outside of the case. Since interfacing of this type is a little flexible, use that to your advantage to shift it into place. It should be a really snug fit when you get it pushed into all the corners. When you have it *exactly* how you want it, take this opportunity to iron the interfacing and fuse the adhesive so the outside of your case will stay looking just how you want it :D



6

With the interfacing all snug, you can then sew the opening closed. Lay the seam back the way it was before you ripped it open, and edge stitch down the fold, anchoring it in place. This is the first of two seams you'll be doing that creates the spine of your case, as you can see from the pattern guidelines.

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7

Now we do the second of the seams that creates the spine for the case. This one is $\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the first, going towards the left of the case. Check the pattern guidelines to see what I mean. Sew down the entire length of the case as before.



TIP: You can find a tutorial for painting with freezer paper templates on my website, here: <http://cholyknight.com/2013/05/02/tutorial-fabric-painting-with-stencils/>

8

For this project I opted to paint the design to be sure it's centered perfectly on the case after the sewing is done.

I used a freezer paper stencil to achieve the look, and you can find my own tutorial for that in the tip box above.

Use the paper pattern as a placement guideline, then paint your letters onto the freezer paper template and remove when complete.



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elastic placement



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P A T T E R N

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OUTER CASE

Cut 1 from main fabric
5/8" seam allowance

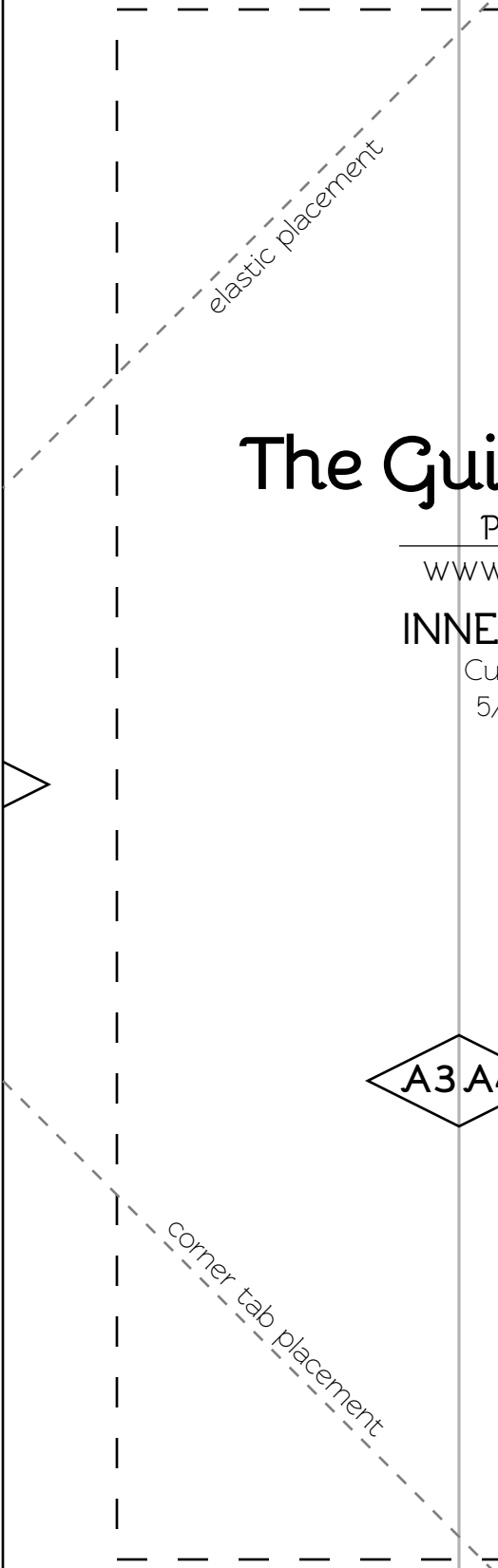
elastic placement



DON'T
panic

applique/paint placement

A1 A2



elastic placement

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P
WWW
INNER
Cut
5/



corner tab placement

A3 A4



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P A T T E R N

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INNER CASE - RIGHT

Cut 1 from main fabric
5/8" seam allowance

A3 A4

elastic placement

corner tab placement

CASE CORNERS

Cut 4 from main fabric
5/8" seam allowance

**DOON'T
PANIC**

APPLIQUE/PAINT TEMPLATE

Cut 1



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INNER CASE - LEFT

Cut 1 from main fabric

5/8" seam allowance

